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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/066,738

02/04/2002

Ramesh Keshavaraj

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06/01/2010

Legal Department (M-495)

P.O. Box 1926

Spartanburg, SC 29304

EXAMINER

SINGH-PANDEY, ARTI R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1786

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/01/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/066,738	Applicant(s) KESHAVARAJ, RAMESH	
	Examiner Arti Singh-Pandey	Art Unit 1794	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE filed on 08/15/2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6-9,11,12,18-21,28,29,32,33,36,37,40 and 41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6-9,11-12,18-21,28,29,32,33,36,37,40 and 41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 2 and 21 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claims of one another. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k). There is a problem between claims 2 and 21. It appears that they are essentially duplicate claims. The only differences seen are as follows:

- Claim 2 states "coated or laminated with a coating or film" vs.. Claim 21 which states: ""which is coated or laminated".
- Additionally, Claim 2 states "made from yarns" vs. claim 21 which states "comprises yarns".

2. Applicant's claims are not in proper reissue format. All claims need to show all changes that have been made with respect to the original patented claims. New claims should be underlined in their entirety. See 37 CFR 1.173(b)(2).

3. Claims 21, 25, 28, 29, 32, 33, 36, 37 and 40-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 251 as being improperly broadened in a reissue application made and sworn to by the assignee and not the patentee. A claim is broader in scope than the original claims if it contains within its scope any conceivable product or process which would have infringed the original patent. A claim is broadened if it is broader in any one respect even though it may be narrower in other respects. Thus, if applicant believes that these

Art Unit: 1794

claims are in fact not duplicates and that they in fact cover different subject matter, this presents another problem. Applicant filed this reissue as a narrowing reissue.

Accordingly, the assignee signed the declaration dated 5/20/03. If these claims are in fact of different scope in any way, then the reissue is considered to be a broadening reissue and the signing of the declaration by the assignee would be improper. They would need to file a declaration signed by the inventor in this case.

4. The reissue oath/declaration filed with this application is defective because it fails to contain the statement required under 37 CFR 1.175(a)(1) as to applicant's belief that the original patent is wholly or partly inoperative or invalid. See 37 CFR 1.175(a)(1) and see MPEP § 1414.

- The reissue oath/declaration filed with this application is defective because it fails to contain a statement that all errors which are being corrected in the reissue application up to the time of filing of the oath/declaration arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.175 and MPEP § 1414. Applicant states that "the claim to a low cover factor airbag coated with any type of airbag coating was apparently practiced..." First, this does not specifically point out what error was present in their patented claims. MPEP 141 states in part:
 - In identifying the error, it is sufficient that the reissue oath /declaration identify a single word, phrase, or expression in the specification or in an original claim, and how it renders the original patent wholly or partly inoperative or invalid, and any

Art Unit: 1794

error in the claims must be identified by reference to the specific claim(s) and the specific claim language wherein lies the error.

Applicant's error statement seems to imply that claim 1 was in error because it needed to specifically state what the airbag fabric was coated with. No amendment to claim 1 in this manner has been made. Additionally, because applicants have made several amendments (thereby correcting additional errors) to the claims since the filing of the original declaration, they need to provide a statement that all errors corrected, that were not covered by a prior declaration arose without deceptive intent.

5. Claims 1,2,6-9,11,12,18-21,28,29,32,33,36,37,40 and 41 are rejected as being based upon a defective reissue under 35 U.S.C. 251 as set forth above. See 37 CFR 1.175.

The nature of the defect(s) in the oath/declaration is set forth in the discussion above in this Office action.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arti Singh-Pandey whose telephone number is 571-272-1483. The examiner can normally be reached on M-R 8-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Tarazano can be reached on 571-272-1515. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1794

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Arti Singh-Pandey/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1794

ASP